

Pistol & Gymnastics Among Eight Varsity Sports To Be Slashed

By Shreyes Seshasai
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Eight of MIT's 41 varsity sports will be cut at the end of the academic year — alpine skiing, golf, men's and women's gymnastics, men's and women's ice hockey, pistol, and wrestling.

Student athletes on the teams being cut were notified in an 8 a.m. closed meeting on Thursday. Later that morning, the Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation (DAPER) released a public letter to the community announcing the cuts.

The cuts to the varsity programs constitute over \$300,000 of the \$485,000 DAPER is cutting for FY2010. "Unless the economy spirals downwards rapidly, we don't expect to make any more cuts," said Julie Soriero, MIT's athletic director. This number represents a five percent cut in DAPER's total expenditures of \$9.7 million, which is calculated by subtracting salaries of faculty members of DAPER, including some coaches, from its overall budget.

The cuts will be effective at the

end of the current academic year, allowing golf, the only cut team still competing, to finish its season.

Catherine Melnikow '10, chair of the Undergraduate Association Committee on Athletics, characterized student reactions as both angry and saddened. "Some students are planning on transferring" to continue competing, she said.

Coaches of the teams are also feeling hurt from the cuts: "Some [coaches] have given a decade or more to their program as part-timers, and they're feeling 'freight-trained,'" said men's gymnastics coach Noah Riskin, who also expressed his dismay that the cuts were not delayed at least a year, giving the teams an opportunity to raise funds to save the sports.

While the varsity pistol team will lose support, the physical education class will remain in place, and may even expand, said Soriero. Pistol coach Will Hart Jr. has said that he will continue as a full-time employee of MIT, teaching the pistol PE class.

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ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

MIT varsity pistol coach Will Hart Jr. meets with his team after the 8 a.m. meeting where it was announced that pistol would no longer be a varsity sport at MIT, despite the team's reputation as one of MIT's most successful.

2.007 Prof Gets Big Screw

Prof. Daniel D. Frey PhD '97 received the Institute Screw on Wednesday afternoon, with \$1128.51 in proceeds from the fundraiser going towards the United Cerebral Palsy Foundation.

The "Big Screw" competition, run by Alpha Phi Omega (APO), encourages students to vote for the professor who has most screwed over students. Students vote with money, so the professor who receives the largest sum of votes wins. This year's Big Screw raised substantially less than last year's \$1500 or 2007's \$2900.

Frey, who lectures 2.007, said, "Screwing over students to this degree is really a team effort. I have to give credit to all the other section instructors, admin staff, and machinists. They deserve this too, don't you think?"

And yet, Frey acknowledged his own "devious" tactics like placing

Big Screw, Page 17

Annual Baker House Piano Drop Commemorates Spring Drop Date

By Aditi Verma
STAFF REPORTER

A 500 pound piano played its last song yesterday evening after it was launched off Baker House's roof during the annual Piano Drop, which commemorates the spring term deadline for dropping classes.

A crowd of about 200 gathered for this year's drop. Watchers began gathering half an hour before the piano's scheduled demise, including some students eager to delay long nights of work that lay ahead: "I'm going to be up p-setting all night. The piano drop made my day," said Pedro A. Figueroa '12.

A few others were less impressed: Beneah K. Wekesa '12 said she was disappointed with the piano drop because she wished there had been more "shattering and flying pieces."

Also among the attendees were some prospective undergraduates who had traveled to MIT with the Junior Fly-In Program, a program that covers travel expenses for economically disadvantaged high school students to visit MIT. Alan Wagner, from Puerto Rico, said after the drop, "I'd fit right in [at MIT]." "I've always dreamed of throwing a piano down from a six story building," he joked as he reached for a souvenir from the remains of the piano.

This year's drop proved more successful, or at least more destructive, than last year's, when the piano



WILLIAM YEE—THE TECH

A piano is seen falling from the roof of Baker House on Thursday, April 23 during Piano Drop. Piano Drop is hosted by Baker every year to commemorate Drop Date.

missed its target — another piano on the ground — and failed to shatter. This year the piano landed on a giant sculpture of a Coke bottle fashioned from plastic buckets and tarp and ex-

ploded into shards.

The piano this year was donated by Pamela Sullivan, a resident of

Piano Drop, Page 14

MIT Avoids Norovirus; Campus Police Conduct Routine 'Well-Being Checks'

By Michael McGraw-Herdeg
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

This occasional feature follows up on news stories long past their prime. In this edition: a contagious stomach

After Deadline

bug misses the Institute but strikes close to home for one campus leader; don't be alarmed if the police come knocking — they might just be checking that you're OK; and a Walker Memorial bathroom has now been getting the same anti-gay graffiti for five years.

MIT avoids stomach illness

While a Boston-area college shut down to try to contain a stomach bug, MIT avoided the disease altogether.

Babson College, in Wellesley, Mass., closed for four days in March after a hundred students contracted the norovirus. The disease spreads in close quarters like cruise ships and college dormitories.

MIT Medical administrators spread firm warnings to wash your hands and ordered cleaning staff to wipe down doorknobs, in an effort managed by Associate Medical Director David V. Diamond.

Meanwhile, Medical administrators made contingency plans: "We set up an incident command center, and I was the incident commander,"

Diamond said.

The Medical organization saw no more stomach flu cases than usual.

Coincidentally, just as Medical was sending out its messages, one senior administrator was home, ill.

Jason M. Pontin, the publisher and editor in chief of *Technology Review*, who also serves as Director of Communications and Advisor to the President of MIT, spent Monday, March 30 "home, sick as a Delhi street dog with food poisoning," he broadcast via Twitter. He diagnosed himself with the norovirus, but he wasn't diagnosed or treated by MIT Medical.

Pontin came back to work the next day; while his caution may have kept the Institute safe, things didn't go so well at home.

"OMG, Ferdinando apparently has the Narovirus [sic], too," Pontin said in a tweet. "He's at home throwing up. I've infected my bulldog."

Pontin and his dog have recovered.

Are you safe? The police might be checking

Has an MIT police officer been knocking on your door lately looking for your neighbor?

Your neighbor may not be in any trouble. The police could just be doing a "well-being check," a routine

verification that a student is okay.

Police will perform a check when a student's parents call them, scared they haven't heard from their child in several days.

If the police conduct a wellness check on you, they will search for you, checking your dormitory room, talking to your neighbors, even staking out your student groups — to make sure that you're OK. They'll report back to your loved one to let them know that things are all right.

"Police are part of the MIT community," said Campus Police Chief John DiFava, and "community policing is our philosophy." Well-being checks are an example of "community members helping other community members," he said.

Hate graffiti continues into fifth year

Someone has been filling a bathroom in Walker Memorial with an anti-gay message for the last five years.

In September 2005, *The Tech* reported that anti-gay graffiti had been found in a bathroom near the Rainbow Lounge in Walker. The graffiti, written on a chalkboard, included the text "Homosexuality may be politically correct, but it will never be

After Deadline, Page 14

In Short

¶ **Composer and Institute Professor John Harbison** will be honored at a concert tonight at 8 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium. The event celebrates Harbison's 70th birthday; he was born on December 20, 1938. The program will feature vocal and instrumental chamber work.

¶ **Nothing happened to Joseph D'Amelio** in court yesterday. The former MIT police officer remains

under house arrest and his next court date is June 16. D'Amelio was arrested for drug trafficking on March 14.

¶ **A new "Spam Quarantine"** system, intended to replace the existing Barracuda spam filtering system, is being offered by IS&T. See the news link at <http://web.mit.edu/ist/>.

Send news information and tips to news@the-tech.mit.edu.



Pictures from
CPW performances

WORLD & NATION

Pledged to Finding a Cure, Yet Advances Prove Elusive

By Gina Kolata
THE NEW YORK TIMES

In 1971, flush with the nation’s success in putting a man on the moon, President Richard Nixon announced a new goal. Cancer would be cured by 1976, the bicentennial.

When 1976 came and went, the date for a cure, or at least substantial progress, kept being put off. It was going to happen by 2000, then by 2015.

Now, President Barack Obama, discussing his plans for health care, has vowed to find “a cure” for cancer in our time and has said that, as part of the economic stimulus package, he would increase federal money for cancer research by a third for the next two years.

Cancer has always been an expensive priority. Since the war on cancer began, the National Cancer Institute, the federal government’s main cancer research entity, with 4,000 employees, has alone spent \$105 billion. And other government agencies, universities, drug companies and philanthropies have chipped in uncounted billions more.

Yet the death rate for cancer, adjusted for the size and age of the population, dropped only 5 percent from 1950 to 2005. In contrast, the death rate for heart disease dropped 64 percent in that time, and for flu and pneumonia, it fell 58 percent.

Still, the perception, fed by the medical profession and its marketers, and by popular sentiment, is that cancer can almost always be prevented. If that fails, it can usually be treated, even beaten.

The good news is that many whose cancer has not spread do well, as they have in the past. In some cases, like early breast cancer, drugs introduced in the past decade have made an already good prognosis even better. And a few rare cancers that once killed quickly, like chronic myeloid leukemia, can be controlled for years with new drugs. Cancer treatments today tend to be less harsh. Surgery is less disfiguring, chemotherapy less disabling.

But difficulties arise when cancer spreads, and, often, it has by the time of diagnosis. That is true for the most common cancers as well as rarer ones.

With breast cancer, for example, only 20 percent with metastatic disease — cancer that has spread outside the breast, like to bones, brain, lungs or liver — live five years or more, barely changed since the war on cancer began.

80 Are Killed in 3 Suicide Bombings In Iraq

By Timothy Williams
THE NEW YORK TIMES

At least 80 people died and 120 others were injured Thursday in three bombings, one by a female suicide bomber in Baghdad, Iraqi officials said, who held a young child’s hand as she set off her explosives among a group of women and children receiving emergency food aid.

The second suicide bombing struck a restaurant filled with Iranian tourists in a restive city north of the capital.

The number of people killed in the attacks is the largest single-day total since February 2008.

The overall level of violence in Iraq is at its lowest since the American invasion in 2003, and Iraqis have been venturing out to parks, restaurants and nightclubs. But a string of recent attacks, highly organized and carried out under tight security, has raised worries that Baathist and jihadi militants are regrouping into a smaller but still lethal insurgency seeking to reassert itself as the American troop presence on the ground is reduced before a full withdrawal in 2011.

“The government was treating the situation like they’d won a victory,” said Sheik Jalal al-Din Saghir, a member of Parliament from the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, a Shiite political party. “They relaxed. We can’t ignore that there were security successes, but that doesn’t mean the story is finished.”

Plight of Carmakers Could Upturn All Pension Plans

By Mary Williams Walsh
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Decisions that the government will make soon on the future of General Motors and Chrysler could accelerate the decline of traditional pension plans, which have sheltered generations of workers from an impoverished old age.

Pension experts predict that a government takeover of the two giant plans would spur other auto companies and all types of manufacturers to abandon such benefits for competitive reasons.

For hundreds of thousands of retired autoworkers, a federal pension takeover would mean sharply reduced benefits. For the federal agency that insures pensions, it would mean a logistical nightmare in the short term — and most likely a slow demise eventually as fewer and fewer small plans remain in the system and pay premiums.

So far, the prospect of a grueling grind through bankruptcy court has been a major deterrent to companies that might want to rid themselves of pension obligations. But retirement and labor specialists are watching closely to see whether the

administration’s auto task force will give either of the auto companies an easier way to shed their huge pension funds, blazing a simplified trail for others to follow.

With or without a bankruptcy filing, the government is quietly making the preparations that would be needed to take over Chrysler’s pension plan, with its 255,000 participants, according to government officials.

Even if Chrysler manages to strike a deal to sell many of its assets to Fiat, perhaps in conjunction with a bankruptcy filing, experts doubt Fiat will agree to take on its pension plan without extraordinary assistance. One possibility being considered is a cash infusion of \$1 billion from Daimler, which previously owned Chrysler and had agreed to backstop a pension failure for several years.

The future of General Motors’ pension plan is also unclear. GM has until June 1 to come up with an acceptable business plan. If it declares bankruptcy, it still may try to keep its pension plan afloat. GM’s plan for hourly workers, which covers 485,000 people, was in reason-

ably good shape until last fall’s market turmoil, and would not require cash contributions until 2013.

If one or both of these plans collapse, the federal agency that insures pension benefits, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp., will lose a big source of the premium revenue it collects from companies with pension funds. But more important, the demise of the bellwether auto plans might set a template for other companies seeking to cut costs and stay competitive.

“If one of these companies solves its pension problem by shunting it off to the federal government, then for competitive reasons the others have to do the same thing,” said Zvi Bodie, a professor of finance at the Boston University School of Management and longtime observer of the government’s pension insurance system. “That is the death spiral.”

Though the automakers’ plans each have a gap between what they have on hand and what they owe their retirees over the years, if they failed, most of that shortfall would be made up by workers in the form of smaller benefits — not by the companies or the government.

U.S. Questions Pakistan’s Will to Stop Taliban

By Carlotta Gall and Eric Schmitt
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN

As the Taliban tightened their hold over newly won territory, Pakistani politicians and U.S. officials on Thursday sharply questioned the government’s willingness to deal with the insurgents and the Pakistani military decision to remain on the sidelines.

Some 400 to 500 insurgents consolidated control of their new prize, a strategic district called Buner, just 70 miles from the capital, Islamabad, setting up check points and negotiating a truce similar to the one that allowed the Taliban to impose Islamic law in the neighboring Swat Valley.

As they did, Taliban contingents were seen Thursday in at least two other districts and areas closer to the capital, according to Pakistani gov-

ernment officials and residents.

Yet Pakistani authorities deployed just several hundred poorly paid and equipped constabulary forces to Buner, who were repelled in a clash with the insurgents, leaving one police officer dead.

The limited response set off fresh scrutiny of Pakistan’s military, a force with 500,000 soldiers and a similar number of reservists. The army receives \$1 billion in U.S. military aid each year but has repeatedly declined to confront the Taliban-led insurgency, even as it has bled out of Pakistan’s self-governed tribal areas into Pakistan proper in recent months.

Pakistan’s military remains fixated on training and deploying its soldiers to fight the country’s arch-enemy, India. Pakistan’s military remains ill-equipped for counterinsurgency, analysts say, and top officers

are deeply reluctant to be pressed into action against insurgents who enjoy family, ethnic and religious ties with many Pakistanis.

In the limited engagements in which regular army troops have fought the Taliban in the tribal areas and sections of the Swat Valley, they not only failed to dislodge the Taliban, but also persuaded many Pakistanis that their own military is as much of a menace as the Islamic radicals it sought to repel, residents and analysts say.

In Washington, a Defense Department official who is monitoring Pakistan closely, said that the poorly trained constabulary force was dispatched on Thursday because regular Pakistani army troops were not available, and Pakistani generals were reluctant to pull reinforcements off the border with India — something U.S. officials encouraged them to do.

WEATHER

Record Warmth This Weekend

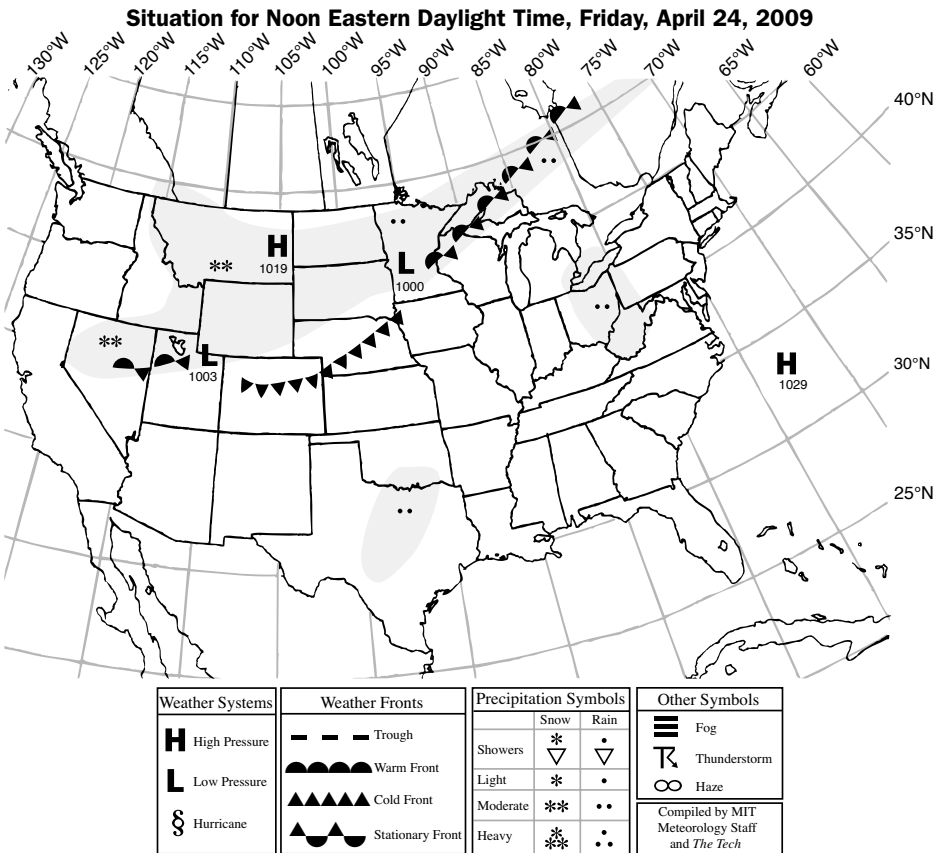
By Angela Zalucha
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

It’s that time of year again, when you no longer need your coat outside, but instead must wear it inside. I am referring to a series of warm, summer-like days, followed by the inevitable switch from heat to air conditioning in MIT’s buildings. This weekend looks to do the trick, with Saturday’s forecasted high of 82°F approaching the record high of 83°F (set in 1982), and Sunday’s high of 85°F challenging the current record of 85°F (set way back in 1872).

The cause of such warm temperatures is a strong high pressure system anchored off the North Carolina coast. This system, which will persist for several days, will set up a flow from the southwest and in turn send warm air into our region. Skies should stay sunny, with the exception of possible fair weather cumulus clouds during the day. Fair weather cumulus clouds are fluffy, low level clouds caused by convective instability near the surface. Their growth is limited by the stable atmosphere above associated with the high pressure system; hence, they are a sign of favorable weather.

Extended Forecast

Today: Sunny, High 68°F (20°C).
Tonight: Clear, Low 52°F (11°C).
Tomorrow: Sunny, High 82°F (28°C).
Tomorrow night: Clear, Low 61°F (16°C).
Sunday: Sunny, High 85°F (29°C).



U.N. Report Lays Out Options for An Oil-Rich Iraqi Region

By Timothy Williams

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

A long-awaited U.N. report that was presented Wednesday to senior Iraqi officials proposes several options for Kirkuk province, including making it an autonomous region as a way to defuse simmering tensions between Kurds and Arabs over its oil wealth.

The U.S. military has long been concerned that the dispute over control of Kirkuk and its resources could plunge Iraq into a new round of violence, drawing neighboring Turkey and Iran into the conflict as well.

The United Nations did not release the complete 500-page document, providing instead only general details about the report. Among them were four proposed options for Kirkuk, each of which would require political accommodation among the groups competing for power: Kurds, Turkmen and Sunni and Shiite Arabs.

Each of the proposals envisions keeping the province as a single entity, and each calls for Kirkuk residents to make the final decision as part of a referendum.

The report, which has been delayed since last year, was presented to Prime Minister Nouri Kamal al-Maliki and other officials.

Massoud Barzani, the leader of the Iraqi Kurdistan region, and other Kurds have said that Kirkuk, which is believed to have a Kurdish majority, should be incorporated into Kurdistan, which has operated as an autonomous region since 1991.

A member of the Iraqi parliament who read the report said that one of the four proposed options was the creation of an independent or autonomous region run by Kurds, Arabs and Turkmen. The budget of the region would be financed with a percentage of Kirkuk's oil revenues, according to the U.N. plan.

Bat Boy, Now 100, Gets Birthday Gift from Red Sox

By Alan Schwarz

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BLOOMFIELD, CONN.

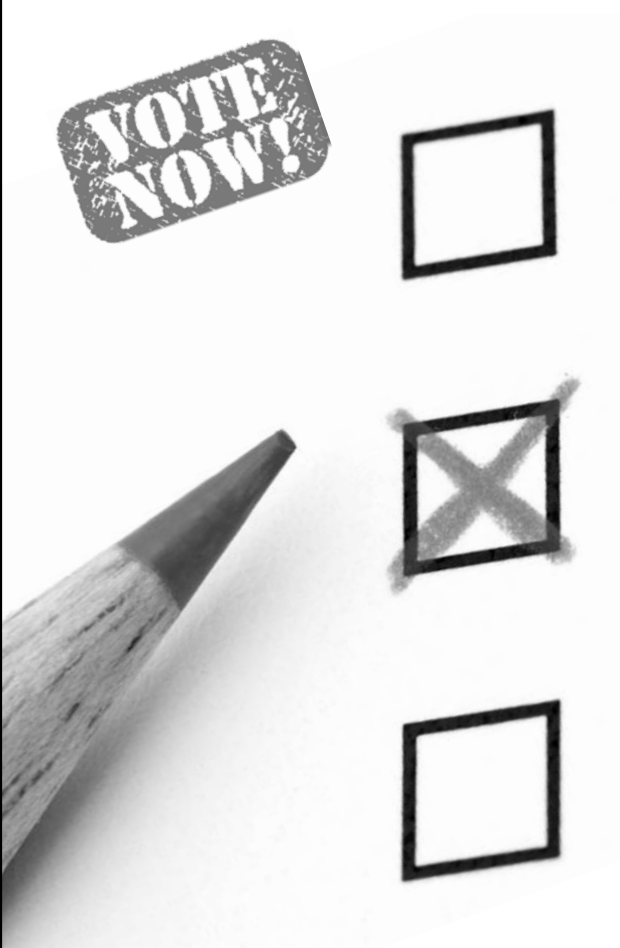
"Hi ya, young fella."

Babe Ruth greeted Arthur Giddon as he did most 13-year-olds, even those in uniform. Giddon chatted with the Babe for a moment but tore himself away because he had a job to do. It was 1922, and as the Boston Braves bat boy, Giddon had to break out the bats, polish some spikes and otherwise outfit his players for that afternoon's game at Braves Field.

Eighty-seven years later, on Saturday, Giddon will reprise his role for his now-beloved Red Sox — as a special 100th birthday present, he will serve as the team's honorary bat boy prior to the game against the rival Yankees. The same hands that delivered bats to Billy Southworth and softened Rube Marquard's glove will do the same for Kevin Youkilis and Jon Lester.

Coop Student Board of Directors Election Update

The following student Coop members are candidates for the Board of Directors for the 2009-2010 academic year.



MIT Undergraduate Students:

Hattie Chung 2011
Naisi Gao 2011

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Tanguy Chau 2011
Lorena Lee-Houghton 2011
Paul Romano 2011

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Melissa Oppenheim 2012
Edmund Soriano 2011
George Thampy 2010
Danni Xie 2012

Harvard Graduate Students:

Aaron Chadbourne 2011
Luke Fuszard 2010
Johanna Wightman 2010



[HTTP://www.thecoop.com](http://www.thecoop.com)

Support Your Candidate/s VOTE ONLINE at:

www.thecoop.com

April 6 Through April 27

The School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (SHASS) is looking for nominations for the James A. (1945) and Ruth Levitan Award for Excellence in Teaching.

All (non-visiting) instructors in undergraduate and graduate subjects taught in the School are eligible (faculty, lecturers, TAs).

Nominations should be made via email to shass-teaching-award@mit.edu. The deadline is May 1, 2009. Nominations should include the following information:

Name:

Email:

Name of the teacher nominated for the award:

Subject(s) taken with the nominee:

Why you are nominating this teacher:

Please, consider and comment on:

- Teaching effectiveness
- Approachability
- Responsiveness to students' progress
- Impact

OPINION



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The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January, and monthly during the summer by The Tech, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Subscriptions are \$50.00 per year (third class). **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. **TELEPHONE:** Editorial: (617) 253-1541. Business: (617) 258-8324. Facsimile: (617) 258-8226. *Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available.* Entire contents © 2009 *The Tech*. Printed on recycled paper by Mass Web Printing Company.

Corrections

Letters To The Editor

“Stop Whining” Misses the Point

I think Mr Blascovich’s editorial Stop Whining and Start Cheering overlooks a few fundamentals.

Firstly, the point of sports is to participate, not to sit on the sidelines and cheer. Trust me, there will be plenty of time for that later in life.

Secondly, making one’s case in the face of budget cuts is not whining, it’s called democracy. Economic hard times are temporary, but many of these sports, once cut, are unlikely to ever return; and in any case the students who want to participate now will lose that opportunity. Any other activities that want to make their voices heard are welcome to do so. But I feel that the wide variety of sports that MIT offers is a strength and that MIT is cutting muscle rather than fat. I believe that the Institute should put the welfare of the students before its own bottom line.

Tom Hafer ’70

An article on March 17 about increases to graduate student stipends incorrectly stated that all graduate student stipends increased by 3.4 percent. Actually, the recommended stipends for science and engineering departments increased by that amount. Those stipends are allowed to deviate from the recommendation announced by Dean for Graduate Education Steven R. Lerman ’72 and Associate Provost Claude R. Canizares. Any department stipends 15 percent above or 10 percent below the recommended amount must be approved by the school dean and the associate provost.

A baseball column on April 17 incorrectly stated that “as of Friday morning,” the Washington Nationals had not won a game this season. The Nationals, in fact, won their first game that Thursday evening (April 16), defeating the Philadelphia Phillies.

UA Update Dining Report, UA Positions, and UA Week

The Undergraduate Association Dining Proposal Committee has been meeting weekly and engaging in conversations with members of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Dining and representatives from peer institutions, such as Harvard, Yale, and Princeton. The Dining Proposal Committee’s report will be released today and will be made available at <http://ua.mit.edu/dpc/>.

The Undergraduate Association is looking for students interested in coordinating major projects and events or advocating for student opinions. The UA will be accepting applications for Secretary-General, Treasurer, assistant vice presidents, and committee chairs and vice-chairs until 5 p.m. today. If you are interested in any of these positions, apply online at <http://ua.mit.edu/exec/positions/>.

Meet the UA Week starts tomorrow and is a great opportunity to learn more about the specific roles and tasks of the Undergraduate Association Committees. The schedule for Meet the UA Week is as follows:

Saturday, April 25:
Kickoff Event: Events Committee hosts Spring Weekend
Tuesday, April 28:
First Floor, Student Center, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Nominations Committee
Election Commission
Committee on History
Committee on Communication
Wednesday, April 29:
Kresge Oval, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Committee on Student Life
Thursday, April 30th:
First Floor, Student Center, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Committee on Sustainability
Committee on Athletics
Friday, May 1:
First Floor, Student Center, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Committee on Dining
Student Committee on Educational Policy

The UA looks forward to meeting you!
—Elizabeth Denys,
UA Secretary General

The Schizophrenic-in-Chief On Free Trade, Obama Shows Multiple Personalities

Keith Yost

In hindsight it’s hard to believe, but there once was a time when I thought I knew where President Obama stood on free trade. Just a year ago he was on the campaign trail in Ohio, claiming that “one million jobs have been lost because of NAFTA” and pledging as president to “renegotiate” the treaty to the satisfaction of labor interests in the U.S. In front of crowds of unemployed workers in Ohio and Texas, his beliefs were as simple as they were hyperbolic: free trade agreements “ship jobs overseas and force parents to compete with their teenagers to work for minimum wage at Wal-Mart.”

I was about to write Obama off as just another protectionist when the Canadian press got hold of a memo between Austan Goolsbee, Obama’s soon-to-be-former senior economic advisor, and the Canadian consulate general, in which Goolsbee assured the Canucks that Obama’s protectionism was mere “political positioning” and that there was nothing to fear from all that campaign trail hot air.

“Of course, it’s so obvious!” I thought. “A self-proclaimed intellectual such as Obama couldn’t actually be a protectionist, not when the vast majority of economists (myself included, MIT Bachelor of Economics, 2008) are so fully behind free trade. Clearly this anti-trade drivel is just his alter ego — as soon as he’s in the Oval Office, he’ll step discretely into some phone booth and emerge with blue spandex and a red cape, ready to do battle with tariffs and quotas everywhere.”

If anything however, Obama’s transition to the White House has only muddled the waters. Even as he signed a stimulus bill that included a “Buy American” provision, he warned other countries about the dangers of doing the same. He poked fingers in the eyes of China by alleging currency manipulation even as he swore oaths on a stack of bibles that he supports global trade. In 2005, he voted against CAFTA on the basis of poor labor standards in Central America, but just a year later voted to approve a free trade agreement with Oman, a monarchy where labor unions are banned and child labor is allowed. Today, when it comes to South Korea (where presumably the labor conditions meet Mr. Obama’s specifications), he opposes a free trade agreement because of the damage Korean imports could do to the American car industry while with Mexico he opposes the free exchange of transportation services because, well, because the teamsters told him to.

The latest Sybil act is Cuba. Obama is gradually making good on a 2004 pronouncement that it’s time to resume trade relations with the communist island. As a free trader, I have no objection, but I have to ask: why does Obama believe that freer trade is good political medicine for Cuba, an unremitting enemy of the United States, but not for Colombia, a long-time loyal Latin American ally?

Where is the method to this madness? Why is free trade supposedly a powerful source of leverage for democratic reform against one country, but utterly useless in another? How can the president blast one trade agreement as being tailor made for “special interests” while he shuts down another at the behest of a lobbying group? Why

does Panama deserve free trade but not Peru?

One conclusion fits the data: Obama doesn’t understand the economics of trade. There’s no coherence between his policy positions because they’re not grounded to any common base of economic thinking. For Obama, there’s no hard foundation of academic belief underlying his views on trade, just an ever-contested quicksand, shifting back and forth between the near-unanimous support for free trade by economists on one hand, and the plaintive cries of labor unions and incumbent industries on the other. Obama is trying to square the circle and come up with a world-view in which both camps are right, but it can’t be done; Adam Smith was not a mercantilist.

In psychology, the way to excise a multiple personality disorder is to bring the conflicting personalities to the surface and have them battle each other until one remains. Or, maybe that’s the premise of a John Cusack movie (again, I’m Course 14, not Course 9) — whatever, the point is this: Obama is surrounded by MIT-trained economists. One of them needs to sit Obama down and tell truth to power, explain to him why economists support free trade, and how, as much as Obama would like them to, his policies do not share a common intellectual heritage. Maybe in the end, Obama will still choose the teamsters over the professors, but at very least he won’t be laboring under the delusion that his current actions serve both.

In 2008, economists gave Obama the benefit of the doubt. If the next four years are anything like the first 100 days, Obama won’t be so lucky in 2012.

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WWJD and the Pirates:

What Would Jefferson Do?

David A. Weinberg

What Would Jefferson Do? Kick pirate butt. *Allegedly.*

This past week’s daring rescue of an American captain held hostage for five days in the Indian Ocean by Somali pirates has led a number of pundits to hearken back to one of America’s earliest overseas military operations: the Barbary Wars.

From 1801 to 1805 and again in 1815, U.S. Presidents Thomas Jefferson and James Madison waged war against North African states that sponsored piracy and extorted ransoms from American commercial shipping in the Mediterranean. According to the way pundits have retold the story, you would think the official title of these presidents was “pirate-killer-in-chief.”

However, the story of the Barbary Wars is actually a lot more nuanced than that. In his appointment as ambassador to France, Thomas Jefferson first tried negotiating a multilateral compact “to compel the piratical states to perpetual peace.” However, although he succeeded in eliciting cooperation from a slew of small trading states such as Portugal, Naples, Venice, and Malta, the compact fell apart without the participation of naval great powers Britain and France.

He also attempted to constructively engage North African officials in direct talks. However, he was promptly told by Tripoli’s ambassador to London to take a hike when this official informed Jefferson that the Koran entitled North African pirates to plunder Western ships at will.

On the other hand, Jefferson tended to take a hard line against the payment of money to pirates. He argued that paying preemptive tributes or retroactive ransoms would only elicit further extortion and emphasized as Secretary of State “our determination to prefer war in all cases to tribute under any form, and to any people whatever.” Still, for a time the government continued to pay hefty sums to the pirate overlords, forking out over a million dollars in cash and goods to ransom 115 sailors from Algiers in 1795 alone.

When Jefferson took office as president in 1801, however, he refused to agree to Tripoli’s demands for an immediate gift of \$225,000 and an annual tribute of \$25,000. In response, the ruler of Tripoli declared war on the United States, thus beginning the first Barbary War.

That’s when the butt-kicking began. Between repeated naval bombardment of the capital and a surprise attack by land that threatened to overthrow the government and install the ruler’s exiled brother in his place, Tripoli sued for peace in 1805.

Fighting broke out again in 1815 as the North African principalities sought to exploit hostilities between America and Britain in the War of 1812 by stepping up their “piratical” activities. This time, using expressions that

evoked the tough-guy language of an action hero, President Madison declared that “it is a settled policy of America, that as peace is better than war, war is better than tribute. The United States, while they wish for war with no nation, will buy peace with none.”

The war drew swiftly to a close after the U.S. brought the fight to Algiers. New treaties at the end of the conflict forever ended all tribute payments by the United States to the pirate states, while the Europeans continued to pay out ransoms for another two decades.

So what present lessons can be learned from our pirate-fighting forebears now that piracy has emerged to threaten American navigation on the high seas once more?

One possibility is that we should attack the pirates where they sleep, using either commandos or air strikes to decimate Somali ports that serve as pirate strongholds, much in the manner that Jefferson and Madison fought piracy by attacking Tripoli and Algiers. However, that would be a terrible idea in this instance. Despite recent UN reports suggesting that the pirates collude with a network of informants and corrupt government officials in the Puntland province where they are based, this is not an analogous instance of state-sponsored piracy.

In fact, Somalia is about as close as one gets these days to the absence of a state, and its fragile pro-Western government would likely be toppled due to domestic outcry in the aftermath of U.S. strikes. This would rob us of a useful partner for quiet intelligence gathering against both the pirates at sea and Islamist terrorists on land. It could also lead to a revocation of the government’s permission for international patrols to operate in Somali waters, a key condition for the continued participation of some of our skittish, less ambitious partners such as China and Japan.

The use of force against piracy is certainly justified, and in certain instances it is also a wise strategy. When it appeared as though the American captain being held hostage was about to be executed by his captors this past week, the use of Navy SEAL snipers to rescue him by taking out his captors was both appropriate and prudent. However, further escalation via a land assault would be a misguided strategy for where we should go from here.

Rather, a better lesson in this instance is the importance of effective and inclusive multilateral coordination. Jefferson tried to elicit comprehensive participation by Western navies to present a united front against North African piracy, but the arrogance of British and French unilateralism scuttled this attempt at cooperation.

The good news is that we are actually doing

The use of force against piracy is certainly justified, and in certain cases it is a wise strategy.

pretty well on this front today. We have already organized an enormous multinational naval coalition of the willing that includes not only our traditional European partners but other major powers such as Russia, China, India, and Japan. While this flotilla is not capable of preventing all attacks similar to the recent kidnapping incident, it does decrease the rate and severity of pirate successes. The kidnappers failed because they were quickly tracked down by an American destroyer before they could escape. Later this week, an attack on a second American cargo ship failed because that same destroyer showed up before the pirates could capture the bridge.

Similarly, effective coordination on limiting ransom payments is another important way to contain the growth of piracy. Despite America’s resistance at various points in history to paying North African pirate ransoms, European payments helped keep the 19th century pirate industry afloat. Similarly, although America held fast to its no-

Moving from “DAPER”

To “DAR”

Dwight Chambers

Many other letters have spoken passionately and clearly about the need for MIT’s varsity athletic programs and so I will try and constrain my comments to addressing solutions to DAPER’s budget gap.

I am convinced that an alternative to the present plan exists. While the difficult financial times add urgency to DAPER’s actions, they may also serve as a catalytic agent for unorthodox thinking. Therefore, I would like to propose that before any varsity or club programs are sacrificed, MIT wholly eliminate its physical education (PE) program. Of course it is lamentable that any part of DAPER be cut, but there are compelling fiscal and philosophical reasons making PE a preferable source of savings.

First and foremost, eliminating PE appears to solve the fiscal problem facing DAPER. MIT has tasked DAPER with finding savings of \$1.46 million over three years. According to figures published in *The Tech* and sourced to DAPER, PE accounts for 16% of DAPER’s expenses. Given that DAPER’s budget is between \$9.7 and \$12.9 million (operational versus operational plus faculty salaries), 16% accounts for potential savings of \$1.5 or \$2 million. While it is ambiguous from the figures which number most accurately reflects the cost of the PE program, it doesn’t matter — both provide adequate savings to address the entire 3 year budget shortfall in a sustainable manner.

Moreover, there are hidden fiscal costs associated with eliminating varsity athletic programs. Through my volunteer work at the Alumni Association, I have been in touch with classmates over the years to encourage philanthropy on behalf of MIT. I know firsthand how important a varsity sport experience can be in convincing an otherwise reluctant alum to make a donation. Beyond my personal anecdote, the same figures I alluded to earlier illustrate the fiscal importance of alumni participation — alumni gifts and endowed funds account for roughly 14% (\$1.8 million) of DAPER’s annual revenue. Every dollar of savings realized through cutting varsity sports is offset by a reduction in the pool of future and current alumni donors. Moreover, I would find it very difficult to believe that a similar emotional attachment exists among my classmates to MIT’s PE program.

I have always been proud that MIT provided opportunities and encouragement to students to live healthy lives through the PE requirement. But when I compare the value of PE to varsity sports, there is no competition. It seems obvious that if we must cut offerings, we should preserve the programs that students elect to participate in and eliminate the programs that they are compelled to attend.

DAPER ostensibly agrees with this point

negotiation policy this week, opting for military force instead, other countries have been paying Somali pirates hefty ransoms in the \$1-3 million range. This only serves to pump more resources into pirate networks for use in future operations.

For this reason we should be pursuing strong multilateral restrictions on the payment of ransom to pirates (and terrorists, while we are at it). If governments can come together to bind our hands in a cooperative manner that includes credible penalties to discourage cheating, it could do a lot of good towards decreasing the level of resources that go back to support further pirate operations.

While remembering America’s founding fathers Jefferson and Madison as tough-guy types who beat up their villainous opponents is a curiously appealing phenomenon, it doesn’t give us a clear picture of how to deal with complex social challenges like piracy today nor a complete understanding of how the Presidents went about addressing them in their times.

Now Andrew Jackson, on the other hand... that’s an entirely different story. That guy was definitely hardcore.

David A. Weinberg is a graduate student in the Department of Political Science.

since “student interest” is a primary factor in deciding which sports teams will get axed this year. More fundamentally though, MIT’s PE program isn’t actually that important in promoting a healthy student population. I’ve found that students that want to exercise are likely to hit the treadmill or erg, use a gym, play pickup sports with friends, or join a sports or IM program. My friends that wanted to avoid physical activity have had no problem finding enough sweat-less PE offerings (e.g. Upgrade your Health and Happiness: Nutrition/Fitness Focus or perennial favorite Pistol) to fulfill their requirement.

That all said, I’m sure there is even an alternative to the outright elimination of the PE program. After all, PE programs do allow students to explore new activities that they may not want or have the time to explore more rigorously. For instance, despite being a varsity rower, I learned to sail and shoot arrows through PE classes. This valuable feature of PE classes could be easily preserved if the

program switched over to a fee supported or “pay-to-play” model.

Despite Paul Blasovich’s claims to the contrary, DAPER’s announced cuts to varsity sports programs lack transparency in both fiscal and philosophical terms, making it difficult to judge the wisdom of its actions. Since the cuts were announced, DAPER has put forward no compelling fiscal reasoning (i.e. line-item budget numbers) as to why sport elimination is the only possible course of action. Besides making it difficult for others to offer substantive fiscal alternatives to their proposal, DAPER hasn’t even fully explained its own reasoning in how the cuts should be prioritized.

Many alternatives in addition to my PE proposal must exist — for instance, DAPER hasn’t provided any substantive reasoning as to why the cuts affect only students’ programs and not full-time DAPER employees. Given that the average sport apparently has an operational budget of \$25,000–\$30,000 (if you live in a world where a football team costs as much as a wrestling team), there should exist equal (if not greater) saving from the elimination of 1 full time employee position as compared to the cutting an entire sport.

If we are going to make cuts the right way, DAPER needs to provide a more full public accounting. According to the Michigan Daily (<http://www.michigandaily.com/content/2009-04-20/other-ivory-towers>), DAPER is looking to cut 5-8 varsity sports. This savings of \$125,000-\$240,000 is dwarfed by the potential savings available from deep or full cuts to MIT’s PE programs. More importantly though, cuts to the PE program allow for savings that properly prioritize all students’ athletic experience at MIT, since it is unclear what unique value PE classes hold to students.

Dwight Chambers is a member of the Class of 2007.

Vandalism of Pro-Life

Bulletin Board Silences Debate

Alejandro Rogers

I was surprised to learn that there has been a small vandalism wave targeted towards specific advocacy groups along the Infinite Corridor. In the past two months, a display about the Israeli/Palestinian conflict was removed, a Martin Luther King display was vandalized twice, the United Christian Organization (UCO) bulletin board was torn down and pro-life ads were completely taken down along with the entire pro-life Bulletin Board.

It made me particularly upset to see the pro-life bulletin board be taken apart, not only because I personally helped to maintain it, but also because MIT has a commitment to diversity and that diversity makes it one of the most exciting places on Earth. I always thought that pro-life advocacy groups were part of that diversity and should be allowed to express themselves, free of vandalism. But apparently that diversity in particular is not of everybody’s taste.

Nevertheless, I will keep on posting the ads because the diversity of opinions on the abortion issue is more important than ever. Given recent developments in the Life Sciences, the

scientific community must increasingly tackle some very hard moral choices. MIT — as the hallmark of scientific research institutions — should be the home of the most exciting debates on abortion. Instead, these debates are silenced by a contingent of vandals who cannot tolerate other opinions.

The impact of such acts is not to be taken lightly; they can have a profound impact on the outcome of a debate. Take the issue of defining the beginning of life as an example. Roe v. Wade, the court decision that de facto legalized abortion in the U.S., overrode the opinion of science on the definition of human life. I say “overrode the opinion of science” because, according to the Declaration of Geneva after WWII, the overwhelming majority of the civilized scientific community stood fiercely against abortion.

So how could such fundamental ethical standards in medicine shift so much in a couple of decades? And how much more can they shift in the future? These are some of the questions I ask myself as I walk down the Infinite Corridor and see pro-life displays and the debate they represent being silenced by vandalism.

Alejandro Rogers is an MBA student in the Sloan School of Management.

ARTS

The ‘Next Big Thing’ at Spring Weekend

The Scoop on Up-And-Coming Bands at MIT on Saturday

By Ben Shanks
STAFF WRITER

Man, don’t you wish you could have been at South by Southwest (SXSW) last month? While you were sitting in class, the Next Big Things were stamping out names for themselves, playing free shows in backyards at all hours of the day. Yeah, SXSW, the focal point of the entire music industry, is a pretty frigin’ sweet deal for any music fan.

Fortunately, the Student Activities Office (SAO) and WMBR are bringing some of the biggest buzz-makers of SXSW to campus for the Spring Weekend Festival. From noon to seven on Saturday, you can find +/- (plus/minus), The Harlem Shakes, CaUSE Co-MOTION!, and a host of other quality musical offerings on the far side of Kresge Auditorium. And unlike those other lame college Spring Fests, this one is free and open to the public. Read on for a full preview of the bands performing.

Supa Dupa, MIT — noon

A merry troupe of MIT students who play gypsy-tinted pop songs. Their originals are infectious, and a short list of their (always well-done) covers give you an idea of their sound — Neutral Milk Hotel, Decemberists, Sufjan Stevens.

Bustin Timberfakes, Boston — 1 p.m.

They cover Justin Timberlake songs. Live, with a full band. Get your sexy on.

Space Faces, ex-MIT, VNR — 2 p.m.

Comprised of MIT graduates Katherine E. Dalis ’05, Dugan K. Hayes ’08, and James Sannino ’07, Space Faces are no stranger to the MIT music scene. They ride the edge of noise, but never lose track of an underlying rock sensibility.

Sleepyhead, Boston, Slumberland/Homestead/Sealed Fate — 3 p.m.

Sleepyhead was part of the early-90s reinvigoration of underground pop music in the States. They’ve been putting out essential albums of catchy and melodic pop-rock for 20

years, and their influence is all over one of the biggest hits among the rock community this year, *The Pains of Being Pure at Heart*. They’re great, they’re important, and they’re playing right here at MIT.

Cause Co-Motion!, NYC, Slumberland Records — 4 p.m.

Really, deep down, what is a pop song? Its all about the hook, man. caUSE co-MOTION! take this to the extreme — they find a hook, ride it for a minute and change, then jump ship before you get sick of it. Sounds simple, but it’s a powerful formula. If you wanna do the sounds-like thing, imagine the Boy’s Don’t Cry-era Cure (before Robert Smith became a zombie or goth or whatever), but recorded in a bathroom.

The Harlem Shakes, NYC, Gigantic Music — 5 p.m

The blogs are aflutter for the Harlem Shakes, in a way they haven’t been since their scene-mates and past tour-mates, Vampire Weekend, hit it big. Truth be told, they share a lot of similarities with last year’s sensation

— African-infused and catchy-as-hell. Go to their MySpace page and listen to “Nothing But Change Part II,” and you’ll be hooked. The *Village Voice*, which is the newspaper of record for music review, declared them a top NYC act, and *Rolling Stone* and *Pitchfork* have both sung their praises.

+/-, New York City, Absolutely Kosher Records — 6 p.m

These guys are best known for their track “All I Do,” otherwise known as that song in the movie *Wicker Park*, but have put out four records which have been well received by critics. They fuse the beeps and boops of electronica with an indie rock structure, making them pioneers of a great genre with a terrible name — indietronic. +/- is fronted by James Baluyut, who was the lead guitarist for seminal 90s indie rock band Versus (check them out if you haven’t). Chris Deaner, their drummer, is the touring drummer for Kelly Clarkson, although I am pretty sure they won’t be playing “Since U Been Gone.”

Also, they are *total* rock stars in Japan and Taiwan. Seriously, they’re huge.

The Return of a Master

Leon Fleisher Plays Three Mozart Piano Concerti

By Sudeep Agarwala
STAFF WRITER

Leon Fleisher, pianist, conductor
Katherine Jacobson Fleisher, pianist
Stuttgarter Kammerorchester
Sony Classical

Sometimes I wish I could write prose like Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart wrote music. Maybe that’s a difficult lesson to learn in itself: Mozart’s music isn’t boring; it’s elegant. It’s the sheer simplicity that can be maddening, and Mozart isn’t an exception — the harmonic ease and clarity of melodic lines in Mozart’s music often seem bland or generic, and that, in itself, seems to be the sticking point: it’s not everyone who can write music so cleanly. After one listens to the music repeatedly, it somehow loses its blandness and realizes its — well — elegance.

Mozart is certainly known for his talents as an opera composer, and his contributions to the symphonic and sonata genres are considerable, but few. Mozart’s concerti, however, are another matter; after Vivaldi in the early eighteenth century, it is Mozart’s work with the genre that ossifies the form into a comprehensible structure, and maybe most exemplary are the piano concerti.

Of the twenty-seven concerti Mozart composed (yes, it’s a feat, but concerti from the classical era were less weighty than the more familiar ones of the romantic era; Beethoven wrote five for the piano, Brahms, only two), we’re lucky to have three (concerto nos. 12,

7 and 23) recorded by pianist Leon Fleisher as both pianist and conductor of the Stuttgarter Kammerorchester on his most recent release on the Sony Classical Label. Lucky for multiple reasons: Fleisher’s career is marked with a forty-year hiatus due to loss of his right hand to focal dystonia. Lucky for us, Fleisher recently returned to the stage (or, at least, recording) in 2004, releasing his first album in over forty years, entitled “Two Hands” and the results have been consistently impressive since his return.

Lucky also because Fleisher’s Mozart somehow stands on its own; it’s no discredit to the sound quality necessarily, but this recording doesn’t necessarily employ the stereophonic hijinx that seems to be the growing trend in classical music, transforming innocent works into voluptuous masterpieces of engineering designed to test the depth, range and fidelity of a sound system. Fleisher’s recording has merit on a computer speaker as well as the stereophile’s contraption.

Fleisher’s magic is somehow more indelibly connected to the interpretation than that. From the very beginning, for instance, in the Allegro of concerto no. 12 in A major (K414), there is an indelible sense of Mozart’s elegance and simplicity, not only in the spare texture afforded the orchestra (spare, but by no means shallow) but by the overriding clarity of Mozart’s clean line — improvised passages and the cadenza have the sense of precisely that. The second Adagio movement doesn’t loll into somnolence as slow music might —

there is decorous space and room for both pianist and orchestra that maintain a consistent dialogue. This dialogue springs to the life in the witty Rondeau — Allegretto conclusion that manages its subtle moments of introspection.

Katherine Jacobson Fleisher joins Mr. Fleisher in the concerto no. 7 in F major (The Lodron) for three pianos, scored for two piano by the composer. The almost French overture style of the opening of the first movement foretell the grandeur afforded by the combined powers of the two pianists and the work doesn’t fail on that account, somehow managing to maintain the same genre-specific concepts that motivated the first concerto.

Fleisher’s release concludes with the concerto no. 23 in A major. I can recommend the entire disc wholeheartedly, but it’s worth paying attention to this work in particular. Among a profundity of overwhelmingly glib works, Mozart’s opus can sometimes seem lacking in gravity. The title for this concerto doesn’t lie — certainly, this, too, is a work in A major, a key often associated with love. But there’s more — a sudden solemnity in the opening theme, unexpected dips into the sorrow of the key of a minor, lush orchestral arrivals that somehow tug at the heartstrings all underscored in unassuming accuracy and detail by Fleisher’s unsurpassable attention to detail. Listen for an accompaniment to the orchestra in the first movement where the piano doubles the orchestra on descending scales in a surprising flutter of octave descent — that’s not

an accident.

This is Mozart as we don’t expect to hear him — somehow profound and oddly melancholy. The F-sharp minor Adagio (Mozart’s only movement ever in this key) is startling in its starkness, and the piano opening in Fleisher’s hands is a sobering monologue that somehow seems to tolerate the orchestral interludes. It’s clear: the piano is the star here and we’ll have to tolerate the orchestra to get back to what the piano was saying. The concerto concludes with a refreshing Allegro assai movement that seems to wash away the gravity but somehow manages to break into a chord progression Beethoven would reserve for the conclusion of his piano sonata no. 21 (the Waldstein) nearly twenty years later. The rondo form is not lost compositionally and neither for Fleisher, who — miraculously — seems to state the music with a different sensitivity every time it appears.

It’s an interesting question to try to determine a preference as to pre- or post- dystonic Fleisher, but maybe it’s a discussion left for later — we’re lucky to have Fleisher back at the piano and these three piano concerti are no exception. It’s rare to hear Mozart in the articulation of simplicity and clarity he obviously composed for, rare to hear the tender melancholy of a man not known for his gravity (Mozart wrote only two of forty-one symphonies in minor keys) treated with such intellectual integrity and attention to detail, but rarest still, perhaps, to have a musician of Fleisher’s quality returned to us.

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CAMPUS LIFE

Ramblings From Hell

Anonymity, Even in Small-Town America

By S. Campbell Proehl
CAMPUS LIFE COLUMNIST

I’ve been thinking a lot lately about how small I am — not only in stature, but in significance. I am a tiny person on a medium-sized planet in an even larger universe. In the scheme of things, I don’t matter. I am inconsequential.

Perhaps this is why I find relics so fascinating. They are proof that the people who created them — and the people they belonged to — were real.

When I was home in New York over my spring break, I found myself veering on my morning runs to walk in the old cemeteries and examine the worn-down headstones from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. There were so many graves that had cracked in half or were barely readable. There are probably very few living people who know who these people were. But the gravestones are there — proof that these people lived and died and were loved.

Last semester, I learned about a poet named Charles Olson who lived and wrote in Gloucester, Massachusetts, a city of 30,730 on Boston’s North Shore. It was the first settlement in the Massachusetts Bay Colony and grew to become a seaport and center of fishing industry. The city itself is a historical artifact, but Olson left records of it in his poems. “Polis is this,” he wrote in one.

That I had experienced the town through the words of someone who saw his city as a creation of all mankind made the idea of traveling there all the more romantic. I had heard that one could go to Gloucester and walk to Olson’s house. I imagined walking leisurely along the downtown streets, eating clam chowder at the

local pub, and asking the patrons how to get to the house.

My romantic journey started on the 12:15 p.m. train that left from North Station last Saturday. It was drizzling, but the Hancock tower looked as dazzling as ever against the gray sky. An hour later, Manchester-by-the-Sea was temptingly adorable, but we stayed on the train and descended via stairs the train conductor pulled down with his foot.

With no map and empty stomachs, we set off to find a local tavern for my mate to get clam chowder and me to get something else (I don’t eat fish). We walked past the city hall, with a clock tower that reigns over the town, which is currently in the process of being restored.

We stopped at the Gloucester library, hoping to find a tribute to Gloucester’s great poet. We found nothing on Charles Olson, but a gated area in the back revealed some interesting leather-bound land grants and an old cardboard box labeled “T.S. Eliot.”

The town’s main street had multiple used book and trinket stores, as well as bakeries, old-fashioned barber shops, and restaurants. I felt like I had walked into 1956. People said “hello” to each other. The sidewalks outside of stores were filled with objects for sale.

One store left two boxes of used books outside, on sale for \$1 each. I picked up a 1945 illustrated edition of *Black Beauty*, a book of musings by John Milton from 1910, and some

Relics are proof that the people who created them — and the people they belonged to — were real.

leather-bound poetry by Alfred Lord Tennyson, printed in 1904. They smelled like vibrant lives gone stale.

After walking along the waterfront and watching the seagulls, we stopped for lunch at the local Top Side Bar & Grill, which advertised a lobster roll and baked cod on a board outside. I ordered turkey croquettes and was so excited about talking to the people in the bar about Charles Olson that I even ate the gravy (I hate gravy).

Sadly, though, no one in the restaurant had any idea who Charles Olson was or where his former house was located. I walked outside and asked a few people on the street. “Sorry, no clue,” they all shook their heads.

We decided that the one place we would be guaranteed to find directions to the house was one of the used bookstores. I walked in and asked the man sitting behind a desk strewn with posters and newspapers. He had long white hair and a three-inch beard. His wedding ring was so tight I wondered whether it could actually come off his finger. “Could you point us in the direction of Charles Olson’s house?” I asked.

He pointed toward the ceiling. “Heaven,” he said, “That’s where his house is.”

“I know,” I responded, “But could you point us in the direction of his real house?”

He took out an old wooden pencil and sketched out a map of the waterfront on the paper. We bought cookies at the Italian bak-

ery and walked along the beach to the house. “You’ll know you get there when you see a lot of balconies. It looks over the water. You can imagine it feeling a bit like a boat.”

I could imagine it. I could imagine this man living a quiet life in his off-yellow house looking out at the brick red factory on the old spit of sand in the water and the lighthouse in the distance. Everything was as I had imagined it.

I took a picture of the plaque that had been placed there and will one day print it out and frame it.

Before we left Gloucester, my friend and I got ordered the Fisherman’s Ale at the local microbrewery. I was sitting next to an out-of-towner talking to a local couple at the bar. “So what’s there to see for someone like me?” he asked them.

“Nothing to see, mostly stuff you shouldn’t see,” they laughed.

“We just saw Charles Olson’s house,” I chimed in.

No one at the bar knew who he was. “I can’t believe I’ve lived here for this long and never heard of this guy,” the bartender said.

I felt my heart skip a beat as I thought about the fact that this man produced some of the greatest relics for their town and these people had no idea who he was. He was anonymous, just a man who lived in a house on the coast, writing poems that have become relics of a person no one knew existed.


I wondered... if this man, this great writer, who lived in a small town in America, has only been dead thirty years and has been forgotten, how long will it take for people to forget who I was?

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Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo



su | do | ku

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9. Solution on page 17.

© Puzzles by Pappocom

								7
		7	4			5		
2			1		7			9
		9					6	8
	7	5				1	4	
1	8					9		
8			3		1			2
		6			9	8		
9								

Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>

The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters

Prefrosh Caption Contest Results...



Joseph Church: Next Stop - Disney on Ice
Fred Wolfensteinburger: Ice-ice baby.
Albert Haberdasher: Global warming my ass...
Louis Kleinenstein: I am ice skating on Killian court.
Marie Gogleschmerken: Nice hack, weather.
Susie Fliegenquerken: The LN₂ truck exploded! Yay!

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 17

ACROSS

1 Greek market
6 Austen heroine
10 Harvest
14 Operates with a beam
15 Bound upward
16 Exxon, once
17 Fire residue
18 ___ fide (good faith)
19 Podium
20 Vacation of a felon?
23 Fricassee
24 Front of a calf
25 Service charge
28 For certain
30 Provides with funding
34 Razor choice
36 Generic soft drink
38 Abraham's wife
39 Vacation of a thespian?
42 Steppes settler
43 Japanese soup
44 Scholarly book
45 Serenaded the sheets
47 Fourth piggy's fare
49 Letters in old atlases
50 Brother of Abel
52 Metal containers
54 Vacation of an optometrist?
61 Singer Amos
62 ___ fide (bad faith)
63 Narrow ridge
64 Cuckoo kin
65 Came down
66 "The Screens" dramatist
67 Declaim wildly

68 ___majesty
69 Fancy pitchers

DOWN

1 Woeful word
2 Deep cut
3 Workplace safety grp.
4 Exudes a strong odor
5 Good points
6 Ample space
7 Siamese statement
8 Horace and Thomas
9 Geronimo's tribe
10 Superfluous
11 Actor Morales
12 Closeout caveat
13 Sit for pic
21 Tennis tie?
22 Laundry cycle
25 Sgt. Friday's quest
26 Actor Hawke

27 Muse of poetry
29 Pixyish
31 Lunch box cookies
32 Reheats
33 More reticent
35 Anti-government activist
37 Business partner
40 Alexander's adjective
41 Talk-show host O'Brien
46 Gloomy
48 Mesh, like gears
51 Zora ___ Hurston
53 Scatter
54 Headliner
55 New Rochelle college
56 ___ and bear it
57 "Boola Boola" singers
58 Coty or Descartes
59 Roman way
60 Favorites

Have an idea for your own comic?
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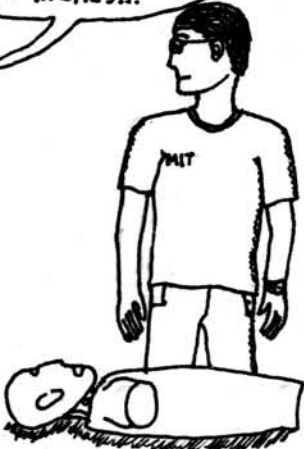
join@tech.mit.edu

Help Desk

by Michael Benitez


A FEW WEEKS AGO, I WENT TO MassCPR, HOSTED BY MIT EMS...

30 CHEST COMPRESSIONS PUSHING DOWN ABOUT TWO INCHES...




...SEVEN, EIGHT, NINE,...

PUSH PUSH PUSH



AAAAAAAAAAAAA!

Chomp! Hissss...




MIT EMS

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*FIGHTING DEMONS IS NOT PART OF THE MassCPR CURRICULUM.




Michael Benitez
4-24-09

Note: Really, EMS is pretty cool. You should learn CPR.

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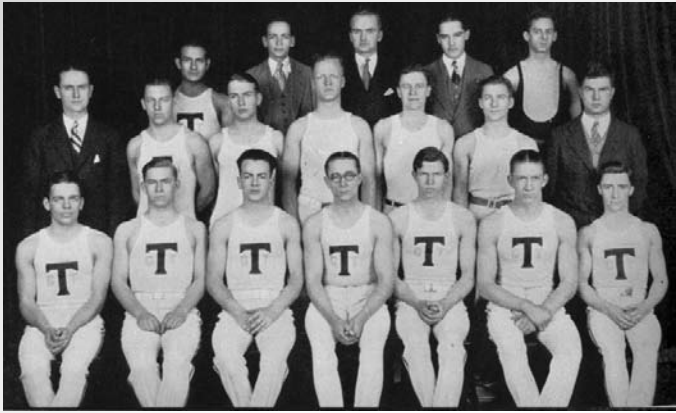
Eating Disorder Treatment
Treatment of Adults Suffering from
Anorexia and Bulimia Nervosa



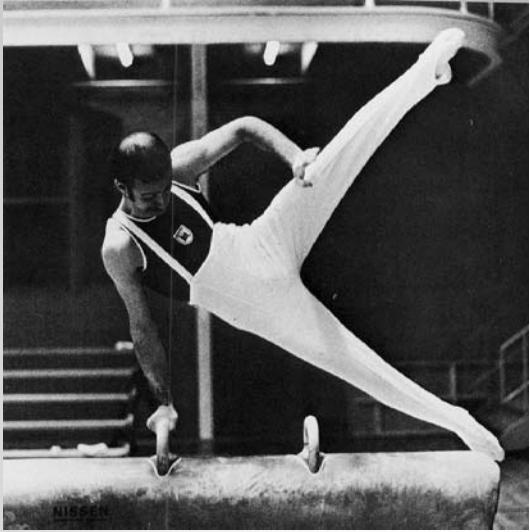
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on the chopping block



Do not cut a unique part of MIT culture!

A Sad Day in MIT History

Due to budget cuts (close to 500K each of the next three years) the Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation (DAPER) has decided to eliminate eight varsity programs, effective immediately: Men's and Women's Gymnastics, Men's and Women's Ice Hockey, Pistol, Golf, Wrestling and Alpine Skiing.

Do we really need 41 varsity sports?

Athletics has always been important to the MIT experience, and, it has played a significant role in attracting and training some of America's most talented graduates. The number and variety of MIT's varsity programs has long been celebrated and used as a selling point as a unique part of MIT culture. Varsity opportunities are educational opportunities that richly complement academic pursuits--*especially here at MIT*. With so much emphasis on hands-on experiential learning, health and well-being, leadership skills, character, and the quality of student life, cutting varsity programs is contrary to the Institute's educational mission and the diversity of MIT culture.

It's no accident that MIT has long maintained the most varsity programs of any school in the nation. This is a result of the tremendous diversity of interest and intensity of purpose of MIT's undergraduate population. Students passionate about less mainstream sports wanted to pursue those passions. They developed clubs which grew into varsity programs. Such programs are here because people in the MIT community wanted

them, worked for them, and have maintained them. The current action is not just a necessary response to deep budget cuts. It represents a disturbing and fundamental change in attitude toward the educational value of athletics at MIT.

To serve such an exceptional, diverse and energetic population we need the greatest variety of varsity programs possible, not just high-level programs for elite-level athletes. The financial crisis will end. But the cut varsity sports are unlikely to ever return. DAPER's axe discards a piece of the vibrancy and uniqueness that makes MIT so special.



Are these sports dying anyway?

In some cases a sport has challenges nationally or regionally (e.g. intercollegiate gymnastics has suffered from a dwindling number of teams). DAPER's means of assessing the "health and vitality" of a varsity program has focused on such challenges. Yet, many of the sports that will be cut are thriving – *at MIT, where it counts*. These teams have full

rosters, very successful athletes (if not teams) and spin off a wide range of recreational, club and/or PE offerings. From an educational perspective, these programs are not dying – unless, of course, they are cut.

What can we do?

Alternatives need to be explored. We believe there are other options for achieving the significant cuts that must be made to DAPER's budget. Those most affected by these actions were not made aware of the cuts until a few weeks ago (many learned yesterday). Recent meetings have been to inform and to justify what had already been decided – a *fait accompli*. DAPER's process has been less than transparent, and not inclusive of those affected.

We want the time to attempt to save our varsity programs. Without anger or disrespect; we simply want to be given a fair chance and enough time to contribute to a better solution. Less than a month is not enough time. And it is ultimately disrespectful to all of the alumni/ae, current student-athletes, friends and families, current and future donors who want the chance to make a difference.

CUT BUDGETS, NOT PROGRAMS, AND PRESERVE AN IMPORTANT PART OF MIT CULTURE!

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Once they're gone, they're gone...



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

Performing Groups Flourish during CPW

(clockwise from top left) (top left and right) Performers play at the Battle of the Bands, which took place in La Sala de Puerto Rico on April 18 during MIT's Campus Preview Weekend.

The MIT-Wellesley Toons stage a fight scene during "I'll Make A Man Out Of You" from *Mulan*, with soloist Richard Yau '10. Nine MIT a cappella groups performed for CPW at the A Cappella Extravaganza in room 54-100 on Friday, April 17.

Benjamin A. Bloomberg '11 and the Logarithms perform Miley Cyrus's "See You Again."

Mae I. Fuchs '12 and Catherine A. Olsson '12 of the Asymptones harmonize in "Still Alive" from the video game *Portal*.

Brian T. Basham '12, Hannah L. Pelton '12, and Deepa Mokshagundam '09 (left to right) of Roadkill Buffet improvise a skit based on a word from the audience during CPW.



SETH A. VILLARREAL—THE TECH



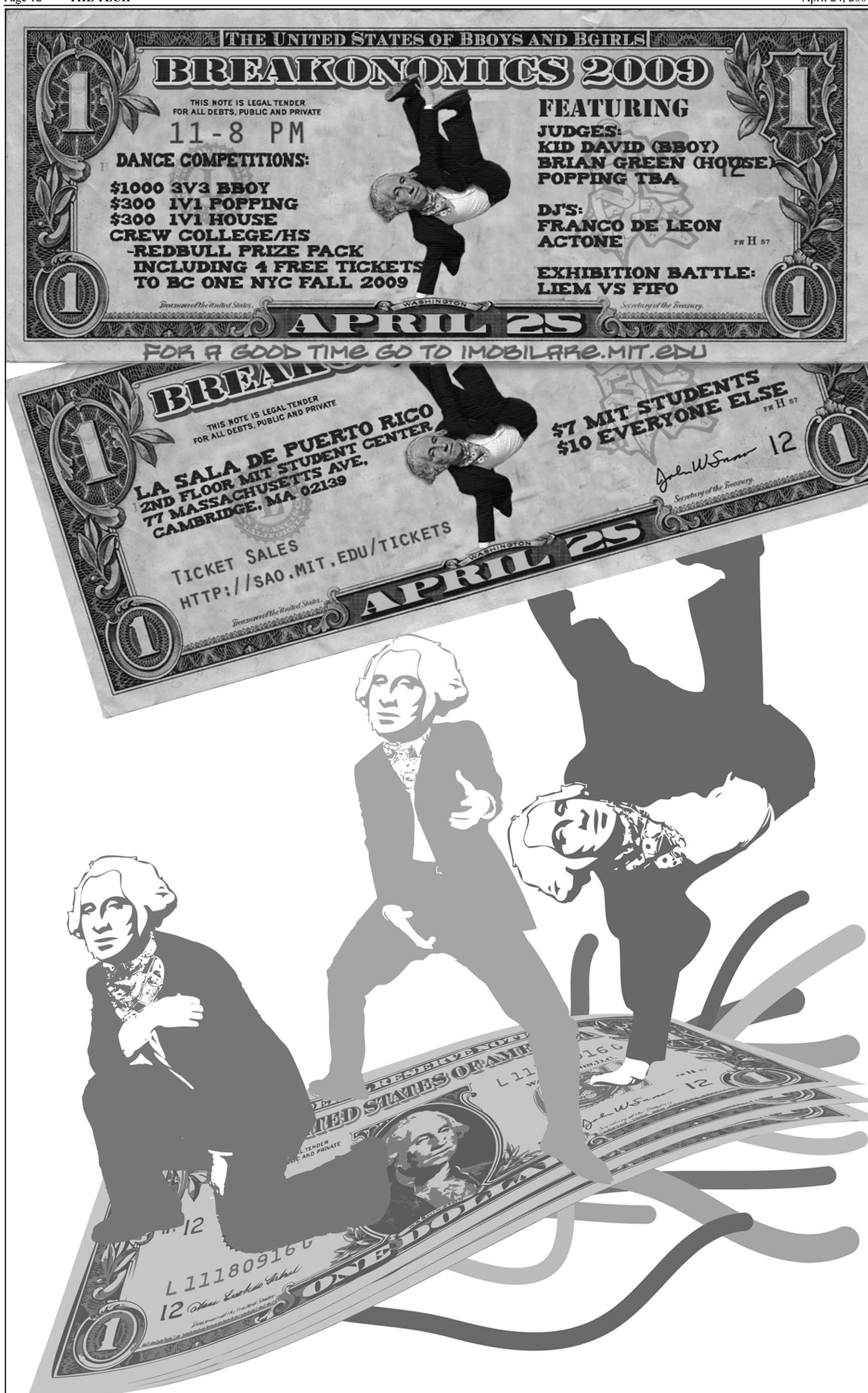
RACHEL FONG—THE TECH



RACHEL FONG—THE TECH



RACHEL FONG—THE TECH



Some Cut Varsity Sports May Continue as Club Teams

Varsity Sports, from Page 1

With the cuts, DAPER has kept its word in not taking performance into consideration. For example, the pistol team has won two national championships over the last five years, consistently competing on a high level against the country’s military academies.

Some of the teams that were cut included individuals who performed well on a national stage, winning All-Conference and even All-American honors. “If [performance] were a primary consideration, that would make the decision even more difficult,” said Soriero.

“It’s a huge disappointment, because from our perspective, we’ve put together a winning program,” said men’s ice hockey captain William G. Near ’10. “We’ve also had a consistent roster for the past twelve years.”

According to Soriero, the criteria used to determine which sports were cut were driven mainly by recommendations from the Health and Vitality study conducted between 2003 and 2006. These criteria include student interest in the sport, management resources, expenses, Title IX compliance, and level of coaching.

The loss of these varsity sports is also costing some coaches their jobs, since many were part-time employees of MIT. While Soriero expects some of these coaches to sever their ties with MIT, she expects some to still have a role in other areas of DAPER.

According to Soriero, DAPER has yet to decide what will be done with some of the facilities of cut teams because they want to get a better sense of which ones might still be used. Other facilities will remain unchanged, including the ice rink which the ice hockey team used for practice. The rink will continue to be rented to other groups for a fee.

According to Riskin, these venues are important for students looking to continue the sport: “You can’t just find a venue to wrestle or do gymnastics in this area. If they can’t at MIT, students are only left with the options of transferring or dropping the sport.”

Possible shift to club sports

Some of the cut varsity teams may remain together as club sports. The “leadership of that transition needs to come from the teams themselves,” said Soriero, who said she didn’t think it was fair to the team or to the Club Sports Council (CSC) to automatically move a team to club status.

For some sports, the transition to club sport status would be a primarily financial one. For example, men’s ice hockey already competes in a league with other club sports, so should they become a club team, they would compete against the same teams. “To be competitive, we still need to have funding for a coach, transportation, and equipment,” said Near. Women’s ice hockey, however, would not be allowed to compete in the same Division III Eastern College Athletic Conference if they were a club sport.

Pistol, with the support and interest from both coach Hart and the current team, will look to become a club sport and continue competing against the country’s best in national competitions. Currently all but one of the teams pistol competes against, including all of the military academies, are club sports.

Brian T. Neltner G, an officer of the Club Sports Council for the past three years, has said that the CSC will consider applications for varsity teams to become a club sport on a case-by-case basis. One important consideration, he says, is the potential for long-term sustainability as a club. It would be more difficult to support teams with frequent long distance travel or a high coaching salary.

Club sports at MIT are different than standard junior varsity sports at other universities in that they are administered directly by students. Over 800 students are involved in MIT’s 30 current club teams. Becoming a club sport would allow teams to receive funding from the CSC, reserve space in the athletic center, and use MIT’s name in their team’s name.

The CSC has a total yearly budget of \$110k, including a maximum of \$5k per team for national competitions, according to Neltner. Of its total budget, \$15k comes from DAPER, plus some additional support at

the end of the year for national competitions. The rest comes from the student life fee, which the officers do not expect to decrease over the next year.

Currently there is a moratorium on adding new club sports, so as not to decrease funding to existing clubs. However, according to Neltner, the moratorium would be lifted for varsity sports wishing to become clubs sports provided that there were additional permanent resources that come with the group. For example, Soriero has told the CSC that DAPER may transfer some of the funding the varsity sport had received to the CSC so that other club sports do not see a hit in funding, ex-varsity sports would not be funded at a higher level than current club sports, said Neltner.

One difficulty current club sports face is affording to pay for instructors. Coaches can only be paid a limited amount from the money a team receives from the CSC, and sometimes the remainder has to come from dues that the athletes pay out of pocket. Often, students who are alumni of the club come back to coach as volunteers, and there are currently 55 student instructors among the teams, said Neltner.

Spreading the news

Word of the cuts spread quickly from the morning meeting. An e-mail to team members sent on Wednesday evening gave a clue to many athletes on which sports may be the ones affected, and confirmation came the next morning at the meeting with Soriero, Dean for Student Life Chris Colombo, and other administrators.

The Admissions office has also been working with DAPER in notifying prospective students of the decisions. Dean of Admissions Stuart Schmill ’86 is currently in the process of personally contacting those admitted students who had expressed interest in playing one of the sports that were cut.

The number of such students is not very large — about 10 to 20, said Schmill. The Admissions Office does not have current plans to reach out the to the rest of the prospective students, but Schmill noted that information about the cuts have

already been spread widely and publicly, such as through MIT’s home page.

The impending sports cuts were also mentioned during scholar-athlete panels during Campus Preview Weekend.

While MIT will lose its claim to being tied for the most varsity sports programs, Schmill did say that in general the cuts don’t change MIT’s message very much: “We still have a broad based program... it wasn’t just that we had a lot of sports, it’s that we had excellence in our sports.”

While Schmill does expect the cuts to factor heavily in the decision for the few prospective students involved with these sports, generally speaking he doesn’t believe it will have much of an effect on students who weren’t planning on playing a sport.

For students who have already declined offers from other schools

and committed to MIT, Schmill said he will try to help them should they now want to change their mind based on the sport cuts. He said, “I will certainly try to help them, but there is no guarantee.”

Schmill, who himself is a former crew coach, said the cuts were certainly sad, but “sometimes the sad thing is the right thing.”

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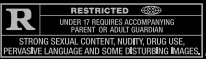
-Rob Nelson, *Variety*

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The piano used in this year's Baker House Piano Drop on April 23 is seen on the roof of the dormitory being prepared to be released.

200 People Watched Piano Drop, Shatter

Piano Drop, from Page 1

New Hampshire who read about last year's Piano Drop and found it amusing. She was not present for the piano drop herself but requested that footage of the drop be mailed to her. The piano that was dropped off the Baker rooftop was a Huntington brand instrument with a broken frame, several missing keys, and all its varnish chipped away.

In the past, the organizers of the piano drop have received e-mails criticizing them for throwing pianos off rooftops when they could have given them to charity. In response to this argument, Alex R. Camacho '10, one of the event's organizers said, "We don't use functional pianos."

In keeping with the Drop Date it commemorates, the piano had the names of some infamous classes, including 6.005 and 2.005, painted on it.

Piano Drop has been held irregularly since it was started by former Baker resident Charles Bruno '74 in 1972. It has happened annually since 2006. Before that, it had been discontinued for some years due to safety concerns. This year spectators were made to stand back to avoid contact with any flying piano debris.

Aziz M. Albahar '10, one of the event's organizers, was already scheming to create more spectacular visual effects at next year's drop yesterday: "We're going to have cinderblocks and sawdust," he said.



Students are seen collecting pieces of the dropped piano as mementos after Baker House's annual Piano Drop, which took place on Thursday, April 23 to commemorate Drop Date.

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Hate Graffiti Plagues Bathroom in Bldg. 50

After Deadline, from Page 1

BIOLOGICALLY correct," and proceeded to graphically describe homosexual sexual acts, ending with, "Small wonder that's a prime vector for contracting AIDS. Enjoy...."

Similar messages were reported to the Campus Police in 2004, an MIT staff member told *The Tech* in 2005.

The writing was reported to the MIT police four times in September 2006, when *The Tech* reported that the writer had still not been found.

Most recently, on the afternoon of March 6, 2009, police took a "report of hateful graffiti written on the bathroom wall," according to police reports.

Throughout the years, the handwriting and message content have stayed about the same. The writer's message has now outlasted an entire class of MIT undergraduates.

"Because it's anonymous, it's very hard to track down the person

who's doing it," said Abigail Francis, assistant director of Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay, and Transgender at MIT. "We kind of have to catch someone in the act."

MIT police said in 2006 that the perpetrator would be punished once caught. If the writer is an MIT student or employee, internal Institute sanctions might apply. If not, MIT could still ban the perpetrator from coming to campus.

Since the graffiti started, LBGT has held town hall meetings where Walker occupants, Campus Activities Complex managers, and MIT Police representatives have offered support and discussed how to report incidents.

To stop the messages, why not just take the chalkboard down? That's been tried, Francis said. The writer started using permanent marker on the wall instead.

The chalkboard messages may have lasted for five years, but at least they are easy to erase.



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JOHNSON ARENA • 8 PM
BUY TICKETS ONLINE FOR \$7 • DOOR PRICE IS \$8

Imobulare presents
BREAKONOMICS WORKSHOPS
WITH KID DAVID AND JAZZY J. • LA SALA • 6:00 and 7:30 PM • \$15 ADMISSION

**SATURDAY
APRIL 25**

Imobulare presents
BREAKONOMICS MIT \$7
PUBLIC \$10
BREAKDANCE COMPETITION • LA SALA • 11 AM–8 PM

Spring Weekend presents
in association with SaveTFP and WMBR
SPRING FESTIVAL KRESGE BBQ PITS
NEXT TO ZESIGER FITNESS CENTER
LIVE MUSIC from 12–7 PM • FUN STUFF from 12–5 PM • \$3 BBQ DINNER at 5 PM

Spring Weekend presents
BEN FOLDS with special guests
SARA BAREILLES and HOTEL LIGHTS
JOHNSON ARENA • 8 PM • \$15 MIT TICKETS, \$25 MIT GUESTS / COLLEGE STUDENTS

WEB.MIT.EDU/SPRING

Day-by-Day Totals For APO's Big Screw Fundraiser

Big Screw, from Page 1

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	(\$Total)
					Prof. Daniel W. Frey PhD '97 (\$209.78) 2.007 <i>United Cerebral Palsy</i> #1
					Prof. David W. Miller (\$197.66) Course 16 <i>AIDS Action Committee</i> #2
					Prof. Philip L. Clay PhD '75 (\$180.89) Chancellor of the Institute <i>Local Homeless Shelter</i> #3
					Prof. Adam Burgasser (\$105.33) #4
					Prof. David Jerison (\$101.14) 18.03 #5
					Prof. Anette Hosoi (\$68.65) 2.001, 2.006 #6
					Prof. John Brisson (\$56.36) #7
					Prof. Albert R. Meyer (\$45.03) 6.042 <i>MIT Community Service Fund</i> #8
					2.005 Staff (\$41.93) #9
					Richard D. Berlin III (\$34.16) Campus Dining <i>Project Bread</i> #10
					Prof. Tong Chen (\$23.34) Course 21F #11
					Prof. John McGreevy (\$22.21) #12
					Prof. Christopher C. Cummins CM '93 (\$18.13) 5.03, 5.05 <i>Save the Harbor, Save the Bay</i> #13
					Karen Nilsson (\$14.65) Residential Life <i>Project Bread</i> #14
					Prof. Richard Dudley (\$9.25) 18.440 <i>Jimmy Fund</i> #15

a Big Screw donation jar adjacent to the turn-in location for what Frey described as a “tricky” test.

Supporters of Frey narrowly beat out those of Professor David W. Miller, \$210 to \$198. Third place went to Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75, with \$181. Miller and Clay received small jars of screws as consolation prizes.

Clay was in the lead going into the home stretch on Thursday, but Frey and Miller came from behind and outpaced him on the last day. It was a close contest, though, with less than \$10 separating Miller and Frey. Contestants were prohibited from voting for themselves on Friday.

Frey announced that the four-foot-long aluminum flat-head screw would hang in the 2.007 lab; it was there last night.

—John A. Hawkinson

We want you in our sheets.

join@the-tech.mit.edu

Solution to Crossword
from page 8

A	G	O	R	A		E	M	M	A		R	E	A	P	
L	A	S	E	S		L	E	A	P		E	S	S	O	
A	S	H	E	S		B	O	N	A		D	A	I	S	
S	H	A	K	E	D	O	W	N	C	R	U	I	S	E	
			S	T	E	W		S	H	I	N				
F	E	E		S	U	R	E		E	N	D	O	W	S	
A	T	R	A		C	O	L	A		S	A	R	A	H	
C	H	A	N	G	E	O	F	S	C	E	N	E	R	Y	
T	A	T	A	R		M	I	S	O		T	O	M	E	
S	N	O	R	E	D		N	O	N	E		S	S	R	
			C	A	I	N		C	A	N	S				
S	I	G	H	T		S	E	E	I	N	G	T	R	I	P
T	O	R	I		M	A	L	A		A	R	E	T	E	
A	N	I	S		A	L	I	T		G	E	N	E	T	
R	A	N	T		L	E	S	E		E	W	E	R	S	

Solution to Sudoku
from page 9

5	4	1	9	3	6	2	8	7
3	9	7	4	2	8	5	1	6
2	6	8	1	5	7	4	3	9
4	2	9	5	1	3	7	6	8
6	7	5	8	9	2	1	4	3
1	8	3	7	6	4	9	2	5
8	5	4	3	7	1	6	9	2
7	3	6	2	4	9	8	5	1
9	1	2	6	8	5	3	7	4

PHILIP GLASS

APRIL 30, 2009

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A BENEFIT CONCERT

Traditions are imploding and exploding everywhere - everything is coming together, for better or worse, and we can no longer pretend we're all living in different worlds because we're on different continents.

PHILIP GLASS
COMPOSER

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SCOREBOARD

Baseball
Saturday, April 18, 2009
MIT (17-8)8
Clark University (11-9)4
MIT (17-9)4
Clark University (12-9)8
Sunday, April 19, 2009
Newbury College (3-21)0
MIT (18-9)6
Newbury College (3-22)1
MIT (19-9)19

Men's Crew-Lightweight
Saturday, April 18, 2009
Cornell and Columbia Geiger Club
MIT3rd of 3

Men's Crew-Heavyweight
Saturday, April 18, 2009
Compton Cup
MIT2nd of 3

Women's Crew-Lightweight
Thursday, April 18, 2009
Buffalo
MIT1st of 3

Men's Lacrosse
Saturday, April 18, 2009
MIT (7-5)11
Clark University (2-11)3
Wednesday, April 22, 2009
Wheaton College (5-6)9
MIT (7-6)7

Women's Lacrosse
Thursday, April 16, 2009
Framingham State College (4-6)6
MIT (9-3)20
Saturday, April 18, 2009
MIT (10-3)16
Mount Holyoke College (3-10)11
Tuesday, April 21, 2009
Babson College (11-2)16
MIT (10-4)10

Women's Tennis
Saturday, April 18, 2009
Skidmore College (13-4)8
MIT (11-5)1
Sunday, April 19, 2009
Vassar College (4-7)7
MIT (11-6)2
Tuesday, April 21, 2009
MIT (12-6)5
Brandeis University (10-7)4

Men's Tennis
Friday, April 17, 2009
Bowdoin College (10-3)1
MIT (11-2)8
Saturday, April 18, 2009
Clark University (4-7)0
MIT (12-2)9
Tuesday, April 21, 2009
Babson College (9-10)1
MIT (13-2)8
Wednesday, April 22, 2009
Tufts University (9-7)6
MIT (14-2)3

Men's Track and Field
Saturday, April 18, 2009
Springfield Invitational
MIT1st of 13

Women's Track and Field
Saturday, April 18, 2009
Springfield Invitational
MIT1st of 12

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SPORTS

Men's Heavyweight Crew Tops Princeton, First Time Since '75

By Stephen Young
TEAM MEMBER

This past Saturday, MIT's varsity heavyweight crew defeated the Princeton University Tigers for the first time since 1975. Coming into the 76th Compton Cup, MIT was ranked 17th nationally with Princeton and Harvard University ranked 11th and fourth respectively. Since the inaugural Compton Cup race in 1933, MIT has historically trailed both crews by margins of 15 seconds or more. Over the lifetime of the cup, MIT has won once, in 1962, and has placed 2nd only a handful of times. The finishing times this weekend were: Harvard (6:00.3), MIT (6:08.6), and Princeton (6:09.4).

Several of the oarsmen in the varsity eight have first-hand experience losing to these crews by margins of over 30 seconds. Just last year, in the same cup race, MIT trailed both Harvard and Princeton by 24 seconds. Overcoming a margin that

large over the course of a year is unprecedented.

This year, Harvard flew off the line at 50 strokes per minute, gaining a boat length lead over Princeton by the 500 meter mark in the race. Princeton was also high off the line (45 strokes per minute) and established a three seat lead over the Engineers within the first 500 meters. Over the next 500 meters, Harvard would extend their lead over the field to a boat length of open water while Princeton extended their lead over MIT to half a length.

In the third 500, MIT finally found their rhythm into the 5-10 mile per hour headwind and slowly began inching their way back through the Princeton crew. At the start of the last 500 meters, Harvard was leading the pack by a comfortable margin, and MIT still trailed Princeton by two seats. The Engineers continued to move on the Princeton crew and with 400 meters left in the race, had finally pulled back to level. They maintained their momentum in the last stretch of the race and were

able to defend a last minute Princeton charge. With 15 strokes left in the race, MIT drove the rate up to 40 strokes per minute and crossed the line 0.8 seconds ahead of the Tigers.

Tech's victory this past weekend has earned them a nomination for Crew of the Week on row2k.com and has moved the Engineers' rank up to 13th in the country. After being unranked for the past several years, MIT looks to continue moving up in the polls when they face No. 18 Dartmouth University, No. 11 Boston University, and the No. 2 University of Wisconsin in two weeks.

MIT's varsity lineup is: (cox) Stephen F. Young '09, (stroke) Luke S. Urban '09, (7) Lucas W. Goodman '11, (6) Thomas A. Larsen '09, (5) William R. Nolan '09, (4) Kevin M. Kelley '09, (3) James T. Stenard '09, (2) David P. Jenicek '09, (bow) Matthew J. Pegler '11.

The heavyweight men will face Colgate University this Sunday for their last home race of the season.



DANIEL KUBACZYK
Kate Phillips '10 defends the outfield in the second game of Friday's doubleheader against the Coast Guard Academy. MIT lost both games 9-0 and 11-1.

Women's Tennis
Rallies Past
Brandeis, 5-4

The nationally-ranked No. 29 MIT women's tennis team battled back from a 4-3 deficit to record a 5-4 victory over host Brandeis University on Tuesday. With the win, the Engineers improved to 12-6 on the season.

Sports
Shorts

The Judges quickly established a 2-0 lead during doubles play. Mackenzie Gallegos and Rachel Rosman defeated Leslie A. Hansen '10 and Anastasia Vishnevsky '12, 8-5, in the top spot while Ariana Sanai and Emily Weisberger topped Melissa A. Diskin '11 and Anisa K. McCree '10, 8-3 in the No. 3 position. Karina N. Pikhart '09 and Yi Wang '09 put MIT on the board with an 8-4 decision.

Hansen led off singles action with a 7-6 (5), 6-3 victory as Vishnevsky put the Engineers ahead by outlasting Gabrielle Helfgott, 5-7, 6-4, 7-5. Sanai rallied to defeat Wang, 3-6, 6-0, 7-5, to even the match at three points. In the No. 4 position, Gallegos topped Diskin, 6-3, 6-2, while Pikhart defeated Nina Levine, 6-2, 6-2.

In the decisive No. 5 singles pairing, Weisberger registered a 6-1 score in the first set, but McCree took the second, 6-4. The third set started with four straight breaks of serve before Weisberger held to go up 3-2. She earned a break for a 4-2 lead, but McCree broke back and then held, tying the set at 4-4. After Weisberger claimed a 5-4 edge, she went up 0-40 to earn three match points. McCree battled back, using the momentum to win

the next two games and, after holding off two attempts to break back, took the set, 7-5, and clinched the match for MIT.

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

Men's Tennis
Defeats Babson,
Captures 11th
NEWMAC Title

In a battle of undefeated conference foes the MIT men's tennis team emerged with an 8-1 victory over host Babson College on Tuesday, registering another unblemished campaign in the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) and picking up its 11th straight regular season title. The No. 1 seeded Engineers (13-2, 5-0 NEWMAC) will take on either No. 4 U.S. Coast Guard Academy or No. 5 Springfield College in the semifinals of the NEWMAC Championship Tournament hosted by Wheaton College on Saturday, April 25.

Peden P. Nichols '09 and Elia S. Harmatz '12 collaborated for an 8-1 win in the No. 3 doubles slot as Brian J. Wee '12 and David E. Iba '09 recorded an 8-2 decision. In the top spot, Ken Van Tilburg '11 and Kevin Pang '11 rallied from a 6-3 deficit to take an 8-6 victory over Alex Kamergorodsky and Brian Lafayette.

Harmatz yielded only one game in his 6-0, 6-1 decision against Austin Conti in the No. 4 singles position. Wee defeated Ken Lin, 6-1, 6-2 as Jonathan F. Farm '09 topped Moises Numa, 6-2, 6-2. Nichols fought off Lafayette, 6-3, 6-4 in the No. 5 spot while Van Tilburg registered a 6-4, 6-3 victory over Justin Albert. In the No. 1 slot, Kamergorodsky outlasted

Pang, 6-2, 3-6, 10-6, to post Babson's lone point of the match.

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

MIT Triathlon
Club Sends Eight
to Collegiate
Nationals

As the frenzy of CPW swept campus for four days, the MIT Triathlon club sent eight athletes to the USA Triathlon Collegiate Nationals last week, held in Lubbock, Texas. Facing competition from the best Triathlon clubs in the nation, the male team averaged 2:45 in the race, which consists of a mile swim, a 25 mile bike, and a 6.2 mile run. The men's team was led by Rastislav Racz '10 with a 2:32 performance. The three-athlete strong female team finished with an average of 3:04. Highlights for the team included scorching burns from the unforgiving Texas sun, Jana Marjanovic '10 and Lindsey Holland '10 swimming in 53 degree water without a wetsuit, and Zuzana Trnovcova '09 posting the 11th best time in the bike-leg out of all female athletes (she finished 43rd out of 313 female overall).

—Matthieu Talpe, Team Member

The Tech's Athlete of the Week:
Portia Jones '12

After a record-setting performance at the Springfield Invitational over the weekend, Portia M. Jones '12 has been named the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) Track Athlete of the Week for the second consecutive week. The freshman was a part of one winning relay squad and helped set three school records on Saturday, as the Engineers took first place in the meet, their final tune-up before this weekend's NEWMAC Championship. In addition, Jones was named the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Track Athlete of the Week for the first time this year.

Jones anchored the victorious 4x400m relay team that achieved an NCAA provisional qualification with its time of 3:56.16. That time is now the fastest in school history. She also reached the provisional mark in the 400m and set a new MIT record, finishing second in 56.95 seconds. Jones also set an Institute record in the 200 with a time of 25.32, good for third place overall.

This is the fifth Conference Athlete of the Week selection for the Engineers this season.

Tech will travel to Mount Holyoke College for the NEWMAC Championship on Saturday, April 25. The meet begins at 11:00 a.m.

—Greg McKeever, DAPER Staff

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, April 25, 2009

Women's Lightweight Crew vs. UMass-Amherst

Sailing, Geiger Trophy

Sailing, Central Series

Women's Lacrosse vs. Wellesley College

9 a.m., Charles River

9:30 a.m., Charles River

10:30 a.m., Charles River

1 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium

Sunday, April 26, 2009

Sailing, Thompson Trophy

Sailing, No Ringer Regatta

Sailing, MIT Invitational

9:30 a.m., Charles River

9:30 a.m., Charles River

10:30 a.m., Charles River



HELEN HOU—THE TECH
The MIT sailing team competes on the Charles River for the Oberg Trophy on Saturday, April 18.